

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING

BOOTH'S THEATRE, Sixth Avenue and Twenty-third street.—DEBORAH, at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Miss Fanny Jannaschek.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirtieth street.—MONEY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mr. Lester Wallack, Miss Jefferys Lewis.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway, between Houston and Bleecker streets.—VALENTINE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE, opposite City Hall, Brooklyn.—EVEN UNTO DEATH, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Sholl Barry.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery, between Nassau and Essex streets.—VALENTINE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE, No. 255 Broadway.—VALENTINE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets.—LEATH'S STOCKING, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

STADE THEATRE, Bowery, between Grand and Nassau streets.—FRA DIAVOLO, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Miss Lucia.

GERMANIA THEATRE, Fourteenth street.—BARRE BLEU, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

LYCEUM THEATRE, Broadway, between Sixth and Seventh streets.—FAUST, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Miss Emma Lord and Vissani.

WOOD'S THEATRE, Broadway, corner Thirtieth street.—SANTIAGO AYENGO, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. The Boy Detective, at 10 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-eighth street and Broadway.—CLIFF, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Clark, Miss Ada Dyer.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street.—STRAKOSKY Italian Opera Troupe.—MISSES GARY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Miss G. L. Fox.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Broadway, between Third and Fourth streets.—HERCULES, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mr. G. L. Fox.

THEATRE COMIQUE, No. 514 Broadway.—VALENTINE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

TONY PATON'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—VALENTINE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

BRANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third street, near Sixth Avenue.—THE BRIGAND, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

COLOSSEUM, Broadway, corner of Thirtieth street.—PARIS BY MOONLIGHT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Friday, March 6, 1874.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather will be cloudy, with rain, and in places snow, in New York and New England.

WOLSELEY NOT WORSTED.—England is relieved by news from the Gold Coast that General Wolseley and the Ashantee expedition are safe, and that they have taken Kofee.

SEE-SAW.—The latest news from Washington is that Durell will probably not be impeached. They seem to be of opinion that he has covered his tracks too well to make the attempt to follow worth while.

CONTRACTORS TO THE FRONT.—South America is agitated with the possibility of more war, and Brazil and Paraguay are busy with preparation. It is an excellent time for thrifty people with gun mills.

WEEPING AND WALLING.—The Tammany braves, who can scarcely get a chance at the public till, bewailed themselves in general committee last night, and Mr. Kelly, the chief mourner, showed how Commissioner Van Nort is giving out contracts to make the fortunes of his friends. On such a point Tammany is an authority, and we are sorry if the people are no better served; but the taxpayers can scarcely be supposed to have any choice whether the contracts enrich Mr. Van Nort's friends or Mr. Kelly's friends.

ANOTHER BULL AGAINST A COMET.—Mr. Havemeyer has evidently thought he should be Governor of the State and should write fine messages to a brilliant Legislature, and with this after-dinner fancy in his mind he has fallen into a deep sleep from which he has waked up thoroughly confused as to what office he really does occupy. His message on canals, wheat, railways, gunboats, history and similar trifles is the consequence. He apparently intends to annihilate the New York Central and other railways by showing that in five years they carried together forty million tons of freight that should have been carried by the State canals; but as he begins his story by comment on the inadequacy of the canals to do what is required of them his arguments hang together badly.

ON TO GLORY.—Don Carlos has formed a famous resolution which he intends to carry into effect after he has captured Bilbao, and that will be in a short time if his confidence is not misplaced. It is unfortunate that princes and gentlemen of that sort are generally disposed to postpone the performance of their grand achievements so as to make them follow events of minor consequence, like the theatrical managers, who make the tragedy follow a farce. It keeps the world waiting in dreadful impatience. In Bilbao—when he has taken it—Carlos intends to be crowned, and he also intends to draw on his bankers from that city for a million of money. These are important steps—especially the latter. But as Carlos has far more need of a crown of money than he has of Bilbao, we do not see why he should wait for this last before he indulges himself with the other. Shortly after taking Bilbao he intends to take the rest of Spain.

The Signs of the Times—The Real Meaning of the Garfield Demonstration.

General Garfield has made an apology for the administration and the republican party. We are reminded by this enthusiastic apology of another demonstration from the accomplished editor of *Harper's Weekly*—Mr. Curtis—himself a conspicuous member of the republican party, and for some time an officeholder under the President, who follows up the line of thought advanced by the *Herald* a day or two since in commenting upon the present political commotion in Massachusetts and its probable effect on the coming New England elections. The testimony of this gifted editor and politician is not without value, especially when taken in connection with the views of General Garfield, and our only fear is that he takes a limited scope of the subject and builds hopes upon the career and character of the republican party far from being justified. When last year the *Herald*, in a series of articles and discussions which attracted an unusual degree of attention throughout the country, pointed out the drift of the administration and the logical tendency of President Grant's policy, Mr. Curtis and General Garfield were among those who refused to accept our conclusions. This was the time to have put such a pressure upon the administration as would have made impossible many things that now grieve the republicans. The general acquiescence in the tone and tendency of the administration justified the President in believing that the party had no mission opposed to his will. It is too late to ask for "an unmistakable sign"—too late to share the confidence which finds expression in the belief that "an attempt in the White House to Johnsonize the republican party failed, and an effort to Butlerize it will be equally useless."

It is precisely this epigrammatic form of criticism that fails to explain the situation. There is no comparison between what is here called to "Johnsonize" and "Butlerize." Mr. Johnson distinguished himself by stubborn antagonism to the republican party; General Butler is distinguished by stubborn fidelity to it. Mr. Johnson endeavored to build up a new party on the ruins of republicanism; General Butler means to ruin everything to make republicanism a dominant power. General Butler is a mere soldier in the ranks; a strong, busy, audacious man, it may be, but simply a type of the dominant element. If he were to be thrown out to-morrow, if he were to die or to retire from politics or to be dismissed from the ranks, the party would be no better than it is now. General Butler is no better and no worse than his time—than Mr. Dawes or Mr. Frothingham or Mr. Schurz or any of the other politicians who are looked upon as "purifiers." Mr. Dawes, who seems to be especially an element of purification, is stained with the Credit Mobilier infamy. He is a representative who condoned, if he did not really commit, that wrong. To ask the country to really decide between these men, or to seriously look upon the appointment of Simmons in Boston as a sudden and unprecedented crime, is to lead it far away from the true meaning of the situation. General Butler is as much a representative republican as any of his critics. The appointment of Simmons was not an exceptional, but a natural, necessary consequence of our present political condition. The pity of it is, not that Simmons was appointed, but that the party tone has fallen so low that his appointment was a necessity, and that we are compelled to listen to the explanations of General Garfield as in some sense an apology. The men who censured that appointment are the very men who lowered the tone of the party. Mr. Dawes, who is a "purifier," a critic of the administration, is the chairman of one leading committee of the House; Mr. Garfield, its swift defender, is chairman of another. When a party cannot refuse to give the leadership of its legislation to two men stained with the Credit Mobilier scandal it certainly cannot expect that the Collector of the Port of Boston can be other than of the quality of Simmons. Simmons in Boston, sitting in Boston, in the receipt of customs, is no more a scandal than Dawes and Garfield in the leadership of the House.

No, no! The discussion passes away from mere men like these into a higher atmosphere. We cannot elevate General Butler into a political principle merely because he offends the muslin-and-beans aristocracy of Boston. He represents the dominant section of his party—its fighting, disciplined power; its skill in partisan warfare, its discipline, its audacity, its resolution to hold power and fight rather than surrender. He is an emblem of what might be called the regular army of the party whose trade is politics. He represents Blaine, Cameron, Conkling, Carpenter, Chandler, Morton, Brownlow, and the mighty organization which they control. What is more, he represents a definite political principle of action. We know it is almost a forbidden topic in illuminated circles, but if any principle is thoroughly defined it is that if the success of the party requires it, we shall have the President's re-nomination. The third term is in all men's minds, if in few men's speech. It will not come down because of the easy, protesting rhetoric of the editor of *Harper's Weekly* or the rude court flattery of its distinguished artist. It is a living theme, and it alone enables us to clearly understand the meaning of the nomination of Simmons and the alliance with Butler, which is only another phrase for an alliance offensive and defensive with the aggressive men of the party. It enables us also to understand the zeal of General Garfield in his apology for the administration.

And why not this alliance? What man of eminence in the party has ventured to forbid it? Do we find, for instance, any protest from General Garfield? Looking over the political situation, what more effective and natural? None of our public men who mean to keep within the party are better or worse than our times. Mr. Sumner, perhaps, may linger apart, like Burke; but Mr. Sumner is rather a monument of one generation than a leader of this. The editor of *Harper's Weekly* may claim to be an exception, but he has kept pace with the party in its most extraordinary movements, and the President may well say of him, as Richard said of Buckingham, "Hath he so long held out with me untired, and stops he now for breath?" And all around we note

the spirit of obedience, a fear to criticize, no opposition to the Presidential will, unless when, by some mistake, a nomination is made that may weaken the party discipline. True, Williams was overthrown, but it was for social reasons; and Cushing was discarded, but only because he was not "loyal to the party." The very men who discarded Cushing are the men who sustain every outrage in the South, who dismissed Mr. Sumner and rejected Judge Hoar and drove Cox out of public life. Furthermore, they are the men who have so mutilated the Civil Service regulations that Mr. Curtis, the editor we are now commenting upon, was compelled to resign, and abandon a scheme that had been dishonored and rendered barren by the coerced administration.

Upon what does this party rest? Upon a deadened and corrupt political opinion. Look around us and we find the political atmosphere laden with miasma. From Custom House to Post Office, from the army to the Treasury, the unhealthy vapors ascend. Every day we turn a new leaf of misadministration, neglect, crime. Our revenue system is simply a nest of swarming drones, who lap and grow fat upon the drippings of the Treasury. Gradually we have come to a system resembling what was seen in France before the Revolution. A vast class of middlemen has grown up between the people and the government. The revenues are farmed out as they were farmed out by Louis XV. Take the Sanborn disclosures, the Jayne transactions and a thousand instances of this kind. Party discipline is so extreme, and party necessities so pressing, that the whole machinery of the government—its administration, its revenues, its power for good or evil at the polls—is at the will of the party leaders. Between the people and the central authority, between the citizen and the President, the Congress and the courts, there is this mighty middle power. It commands the President and all in authority, on one side, and the people on the other. The result is that, with all of our rhetoric, we are among the worst-governed people in the world. Our tariff laws shackle the industries they claim to protect. Our State governments in the South rest upon ignorance and malfeasance in office, and when there arises a manly voice of resentment the mailed hand of the military commander suppresses it. We have, as wards, a savage but interesting people, and instead of the humanity of Christians we have shown a barbarity as terrible as that of Clive in Hindostan. Our diplomacy abroad has its fruit in Emma Mine speculations, in Vienna scandals, in the humiliations of the Virginians. Our aim is to get rich and build palaces in Washington and drink champagne, and call each other "society," and teach our youth thrift by conspicuous examples of luxury and parade. When, now and then, we have a revulsion of nature, a strain upon the system, a panic and widespread ruin, we propose inflation. The middle class (the farmers general of the revenues) knows what inflation means. Any policy of reform, of economy or retrenchment means death. By inflation there will be a few years more of success, of speculation, of "society," a few more years, and then the deluge!

What is the remedy? We have none from General Garfield. It certainly is not by making an example of General Butler. The Essex Congressman is a unit of considerable value to our arithmetic; but he is not quite a political principle. We do not believe the seas will go down because Jonah is thrown overboard, more especially if a crew of Jonahs remain on deck. The evil is not with a man, but with a party and a system; and we have no remedy either in the writings of Mr. Curtis or the eloquence of General Garfield. The President is as good in many ways as we could wish, and on occasion has shown a strong conservative wisdom, but what is the President in presence of this menacing, insatiable, resolute middle class, which stands between the people and their government and commands the nation? Thus far this party has marched without a check. Only the other day it carried Philadelphia. What will be the result in New England? Upon that result may depend momentous issues. If the party of the President is beaten he may retreat from his new alliances and quietly drift into history and private life. If it succeeds, as succeeded it may, what then?

A SUGGESTION.—We acknowledge the following letter from Mr. Minturn, which we are glad to print:—

THE NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR, TREASURER'S OFFICE, 73 SOUTH STREET, NEW YORK, March 5, 1874.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—Allow me to avail myself of your columns to acknowledge the amount of \$131.25, donated to this association by the employees of Messrs. W. & J. Storer.

This association does not usually make public acknowledgment of donations, but when I received this contribution from those who themselves have little to spare, but who thus tax themselves for their scanty means to aid in their measure to relieve the existing suffering, I felt that a special acknowledgment was due. I am, sir, yours most respectfully, ROBT. B. MINTURN, Treasurer.

We are glad to second the appeal of Mr. Minturn, and we trust that those of our citizens who are charitably disposed will remember this association. It is worthy of the utmost confidence and support. When men like Mr. Minturn and Mr. Roosevelt take active part in these charities the people will be glad to support them. We shall not be at the mercy of the Braces and Barnards, who collect money for "charity" and expend it for "salary."

BUGABOO.—Yesterday the vaults under the Parliament House in London were searched to see if Guy Fawkes was hiding there with his lantern and powder barrels; but he was not found, and Parliament will meet in safety. Nations must be pretty well frightened when they don't get over it for two hundred and seventy years.

PINCHBACK.—That distinguished Louisiana politician, P. B. S. Pinchback, seems to have given up his Washington schemes, and has gone back to printing a newspaper for the instruction of the colored people. This is the most sensible thing Pinchback has done since he rose to his present eminence.

CHURCH AND STATE.—Czar Alexander is using a few leaves out of Kaiser Wilhelm's book. He also has a Church in his dominions that is not sufficiently within his control, and, as that limits his moral sovereignty as Czar of all the Russias, the Church must be down. But the Polish peasantry seem disposed to fight for it, and seventy are reported as shot in a recent riot.

The Phenomenon Called "Spiritualism"—A "Communication" from Judge Peckham.

Judge Edmonds sends us a correspondence, with a somewhat emphatic request that it shall appear in the *Herald*. We are always glad to oblige a gentleman as earnest and sincere as Judge Edmonds, even when he asks us to enter upon a subject as unusual as Spiritualism. This correspondence, as we understand it, consists of a communication made to Judge Edmonds by the spirit of the late much lamented Judge Rufus W. Peckham, who was among the unfortunate gentlemen who perished on the Ville du Havre. Judge Edmonds assures us that the spirit of Judge Peckham came to him, identified himself to his satisfaction and thereupon addressed him the letter which we print.

The letter purporting to come from the spirit of Judge Peckham is an interesting literary phenomenon, to say the least. It describes the last meeting with Judge Edmonds at Albany, informing the Judge that he left the court room in advance of him, and proceeds to say that death has severed no links in their friendship, "when we still sit in council with those we know and loved." Furthermore, the Judge does not think he would have chosen death in the form that came to him. All his life, his early memories and friendships, came to his mind in the last sad moments. As he sunk in the waves, "with his wife folded to his heart," his spirit was lifted out of the wave by his father and mother, and, with his wife in his arms, he followed the spirit of his mother. His generous heart felt solicitude for his fellow sufferers, but he saw them also lifted out of the waves as though by strong arms, "nerved by love." There was no agony, no pain, "no sensation of fear, cold or suffocation;" and the new life that came so suddenly, he assures us, so glorious that "the shadow of death became an illumination."

The spirit of the Judge assures us that the "collusion was inevitable;" that no blame can attach to the officer in charge, and that "the survivors alone most need sympathy." He mentions the happy friendships that have come to him in the spirit world, among them ex-Senator Tallmadge, ex-President Van Buren and Nicholas Hill, and closes with an expression of the happiness of being able to "rejoice in our great and All-wise Father, who doeth all things well."

We give this contribution to the literature of Spiritualism for what it is worth. We have had spirits since the Witch of Endor, and belief in Spiritualism has an actual faith or system of theology has become widespread within the past few years. It would be a great comfort to mankind to be able to accept the faith laid down with so much poetry and romance by Judge Edmonds, and if we could all believe as fully as Judge Edmonds in the testimony of Judge Peckham as here recorded we fear there would be a tendency to sea travel as among the surest and happiest means of escape from toil and effort, from ill health, disappointments, bankruptcy and the other misfortunes that tread upon our footsteps as we journey to the end. The saddest thought in leaving the world is of those we leave behind; and if we could believe that over the bed of death the spirits of those we loved were hovering with strong arms, "nerved by love," to lift us into a new and happy existence, death would become a festival of joy rather than sorrow, and our enemies would show their hatred by praying that we might live many years.

But we do not intend to be drawn into the enchanted realms of a discussion upon Spiritualism. If we could venture upon a criticism without appearing to express an opinion on the subject it would be that we really are told nothing new in communications like those given us by Judge Edmonds. The larger part of these "communications" read like the dreams and fancies of a schoolgirl given to writing poems. What is this other world we live in? What life do we lead there? Do we see each other with spiritual eyes? Is it a world of good or evil? Do we grow or remain stagnant? Do we marry, or recognize the marriages of earth? Do we carry with us our friendships, hopes, enemies or ambitions? Have we any communion with the saints? Is there any law of discipline or punishment for the sins of the flesh? Does the malefactor who dies on the gallows enter into the same life with the prince who dies on the throne? Are we to have communion with the great minds of the world—to realize the dream of Napoleon in his dying hours that he would meet Caesar, Hannibal and Alexander in the Elysian Fields? Is it a phenomenon, or a science, or a faith?

We are afraid the world is no nearer the solution than Hamlet, who only saw in the appearance of the ghost that there were more things in heaven and earth than philosophy could explain. The phenomenon is certainly worthy of grave study and attention. We wish we could be more satisfied with the evidence of Judge Edmonds. At any rate, we give it as the testimony of an honest enthusiast, who believes what he says and labors to induce the world to accept his beautiful, gaudy and alluring religion.

INDIA.—The news from the seat of the Indian famine grows worse and worse. In one village alone eighteen persons starved to death in four days. We do not know how many villages have not been heard from, nor how many from which it will be impossible to hear. In the meantime thousands of starving Hindoos apply for work. Before the new Ministry can begin operations the evil will have passed beyond control. We are on the eve of the most deplorable calamity of modern times and we cannot help feeling that the main cause of it is the apathy and misgovernment which have so long cursed India.

THE SITUATION IN CUBA.—The decree of the Captain General ordering the mobilization of the volunteers and the enrolment of all men capable of bearing arms is producing the results we anticipated. The Cubans forced to take up arms are flocking to the insurgent standard. Our correspondent at Manzanilla informs us that numerous desertions of the Cuban volunteers have taken place from the neighboring camps, and the same rebellious disposition is manifesting itself through the island. So far from the decree of the Captain General securing peace, it will only fan the flames of the insurrection. The Cuban struggle is only about to become really serious. The

Spaniards have forced the wavering to the wall, but they will probably have reason to regret their impolitic action. Cuba is lost to Spain, and the sooner the fact is recognized at Madrid the better it will be for the Spanish nation.

A Free Notice.

We acknowledge the receipt of the following letter:—

MR. ART CRITIC OF THE HERALD:—Dear Sir:—I enclose similar to the enclosed published in to-morrow's (Thursday's) *Herald*. Enclosed please find \$10. Respectfully yours, P. KEARNEY.

Enclosed in this letter are two five dollar bank bills. One is old and rather greasy, issued by the Marine National Bank of New York. The other is a bright, new bill, issued by the People's National Bank of Ottawa, Kansas. The "something similar" which Mr. Kearney encloses is as follows:—

ART MATTERS.—Among the paintings now on exhibition and for sale, this evening, by Messrs. P. Kearney, of Tottenham, Staten Island, evidently painted with a good deal of care, from nature. His grapes, cherries, foliage, &c., are superior.

Since then Mr. Kearney, who evidently combines a love of art with good business habits, sends another letter:—

TOTTENVILLE, N. Y., March 4, 1874. MR. ART CRITIC OF THE HERALD:—Dear Sir:—I left a notice here last Wednesday for insertion in the next day's paper. I also enclosed \$10 for the same. Please not appearing, will you return me the money, by leaving it enclosed or to my address, and oblige? Yours, respectfully, P. KEARNEY.

As we prefer to print Mr. Kearney's notice free of expense, our first advice to him is to call at our counting room and obtain his money. Our next advice is to give himself honestly to his art and not seek fame by attempting to corrupt newspapers. He can never rise in his art by these small and unbecoming practices. All the five dollar bills he can beg or borrow will not make him a good painter if he is really a bad one, and any criticism that can be purchased in this way will do harm to himself and the public. We do not want Mr. Kearney's money, and we regret exceedingly he should have sent it. There is too much of this ten dollar criticism already in some modern journals. The result is that art is corrupted, and that unscrupulous dealers in pictures are constantly selling wretched daubs as the works of Doré and Landseer and Turner. The subject needs careful investigation, and we mean to devote some attention to it, in the interests of true artists who disdain the practices of Mr. Kearney, as well as of the public, who are so frequently swindled in the purchase of pictures.

In the meantime Mr. Kearney will please consider this as a free notice, and call without delay at our counting room for his money.

Climatic Changes in Great Britain.

Very curious and conclusive evidence of climatic changes in Great Britain has recently been adduced by an English botanist in the opening address before the Edinburgh Botanical Society. This evidence is found in the marked deterioration or dying out of certain vegetable growths, which, in the memory of man still living, once flourished in some parts of the United Kingdom. The alteration of climate, as indicated by horticultural statistics, is most striking in Scotland. Prior to 1835 the gardens and pleasure grounds around Edinburgh abounded in hydrangeas, the sweet scented verbena and other ornamental, shrubby plants, which are quite lost to the country, no longer beautified by their once prolific bloom and gorgeous and varied tints. During the memorably cold winter of 1860-61 a veteran myrtle tree at Leaslie House, which had stood through a hundred years—an examination of its stem showing its age to be exactly a century—and regularly flowered, was destroyed. And this appears to have been the last survivor of its race. The catalpa, the fuchsia, the acacia, the cypress and the almond, in some of their varieties, seem also to have fallen under some evil spell, and their growth, where still alive, is dwindling and enfeebled. Equally marked is the decadence in the magnolia grandiflora—the pride of our Southern States—which till 1837 flourished profusely in Scotland; and many other most valuable and ornamental trees have ceased to lend to Scottish scenery those varied charms which once inspired the poet and the tourist. Even the larch, the yew and evergreen woods—the staple of industrial forest growth—have not maintained their known pristine robustness and health.

It may be very difficult to assign a good cause for the climatic change which has told so perceptibly upon the vegetation of Scotland, and doubtless more or less on that of the entire Kingdom. The high horticultural authority which furnishes the above facts suggests very plausibly that the failure of vegetation during the last forty or fifty years is due to the non-ripening of the wood from lack of sun heat. The remarkable fact cited that figs, which, till 1834, grew in abundance and without the aid of fire heat, now seldom thrive except in well-protected and favored spots, would appear to corroborate this reasoning. The thermometric observations of climate have never been sufficiently exact and delicate to determine through what variations of solar temperature and radiation our planet has been and is passing. Great as are the bearings of such observations on the practical work of the gardener, the farmer and the forest-grower, they have yet to be instituted in a way to test the question now raised. But, however the amount of solar heat distributed over the British Islands may have varied during the supposed period of vegetative deterioration, it is probable the rainfall has diminished by extensive deforestation; and, what is equally important, the amount of latent heat liberated from the clouds at the moment of their condensation into rain has diminished. The loss of a cubic foot of rain over a given district, we know, accompanied by a loss of latent heat that would have been sufficient to raise a hundred thousand cubic feet of air from the temperature of melting ice to summer heat. And it is, therefore, obvious that with the smallest diminution of a country's rainfall, though the deficiency would be almost imperceptible in a rain-gauge, the amount of heat requisite for giving bloom and vigor to vegetation is enormously curtailed.

The subject is of universal interest and of world-wide economic importance; and forcibly suggests the expediency we have long contended for, of guarding our climate against the deteriorating effects of wholesale deforestation. A meteorological investigation of these climatic changes has become a necessity of agriculture as well as of science.

The Temperance Movement.

The Rev. John Hall does not favor the West ern plan of an exciting and, necessarily, a spasmodic crusade against venders of spirituous liquors. He is in the right. Violent reforms are always succeeded by violent reactions. Repressive measures only tend to establish more firmly the iniquities over which is obtained a temporary triumph. The suppression of the vice of intemperance is purely a practical one, and in some respects a question also of climate, nourishment and religious teaching. We are glad to observe that Dr. Hall prefers addressing the moral sensibilities of persons who waste their bodies and souls in riotous intemperance, rather than attempt to force prohibitory measures of, at least, doubtful constitutionality. The National Temperance Association appears also to be moving with rational pace. It has called a meeting of the clergymen of all denominations for Monday next, at which the religious aspects of intemperance will be considered, and, considered, we hope, in a catholic spirit and on practical grounds. Meanwhile the ladies are to circulate pledges to the sellers of rum, asking the latter to close their establishments and retire from the business. Lessons of real estate are also to be appealed to, and an attempt is to be made to inaugurate the street scenes which have produced so much excitement in the cities and villages of Ohio. We await the developments.

WHO PRECIPITATED THE REBELLION? is a question which we thought was decided by the answer that must be given as to who fired upon Fort Sumter. But Mr. Charles Francis Adams' eulogium on the late Secretary Seward has called from Judge John A. Campbell a reply in which he charges the beginning of the war upon Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet in not evacuating the Charleston defences. It is a very remarkable logic which holds a national government responsible for a war which could only have been averted by submitting to the authority of armed insurgents.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Ex-Senator Alexander Caldwell, of Kansas, is staying at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

And now another Georgia general wants to go to Congress. He is H. L. Bogging.

Ex-Governor Henry A. Wise, of Virginia, who has been very ill, is rapidly gaining in health.

Mr. Stephen Salisbury, of Worcester, Mass., has subscribed \$5,000 toward the Agassiz memorial.

General G. J. Magee, formerly of Governor Hoffman's staff, is quartered at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Señor Constantino Borges, Brazilian Minister at Washington, has apartments at the Albemarle Hotel.

Assistant Bishop Cheney has drawn his former parishioners of Christ church, Chicago, into the Reformed Episcopal Church.

Sergeant-at-Arms N. G. Ordway, of the House of Representatives, arrived from Washington yesterday at the Grand Central Hotel.

The apprehension expressed in some quarters for the safety of General Phil Sheridan's scalp are not shared in the Valley of Virginia, so says the Richmond *Enquirer*.

Dr. Karl Mark, the leader of the elder branch of the International Association, is engaged in translating his work on "Capital," which has not yet appeared in an English form.

Sir Walter Crofton, author of the Irish prison system, is expected to address the National Prison Reform Congress at St. Louis on March 13.

Ex-Governor Horatio Seymour will make the opening address, and the Rev. Dr. Bellows will be among the other speakers.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Old Constitution in Dry Dock for Rebuilding. PHILADELPHIA, March 5, 1874.

The old frigate Constitution was taken into a sectional dry dock this morning, and then transferred to the ways in the dry dock. She is to be rebuilt.

Transfer Orders.

WASHINGTON, March 5, 1874.

Chief Engineer J. O. A. Zeigler has been detached from special duty at Key West and ordered to Philadelphia as inspector of coal, viz: J. Van- cian, ordered to the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

THE NAVAL REVIEW.

Key West, Fla., March 5, 1874.

This morning Admiral Case issued an order to the commanders of vessels requesting that all the newspaper correspondents leave and not again return on board any vessel of the fleet.

The monitors now here are to be manoeuvred to-morrow, weather permitting. The landing will be exactly in accordance with the programme and exercises previously published by you.

The flagship Wabash and the steamers Despatch and Pinto returned to this port from Havana this afternoon. All reported quiet at the latter city.

LECTURE ON ANTI-DARWINISM.

Professor B. Waterhouse Hawkins, the well-known English naturalist, delivered the second of his series of lectures on the unity of plan in the animal kingdom before the Union League Club last night.

Professor Hawkins is one of Darwin's numerous antagonists, and he remarks on the generation of fishes, as applied to the theory of evolution, were listened to with interest by an intelligent audience.

THE ST. NICHOLAS SOCIETY.

A meeting of the "St. Nicholas Society of the City of New York" was held at Demott's, Fourteenth street, last evening. The Treasurer's report was read, which showed the finances of the society to be in a most flourishing condition. After the transaction of routine business the meeting adjourned.

THE KINGS COUNTY SUPERVISORS.

The Kings County Supervisors met last evening. Mr. E. B. Oudry, the Clerk of the Board, was authorized to employ an assistant. The report of the experts employed to examine the plans and specifications of the Thirteenth regiment armory was submitted by Supervisor Bergen. It condemns the plans, and sets forth that if the building should be erected by them it would be unsafe. Resolutions condemning the plans and referring the matter to the Committee on Military Affairs were adopted.

THE HUDSON RIVER.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 5, 1874.

Ice from the Mohawk River passed this city today. The river is open down as far as Coeymans and with the present weather will soon be open there.

THE RED CUTHROATS.

A Soldier Killed by the Minneconjou Sioux. WASHINGTON, March 5, 1874.

A telegram to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs from Agent Moffatt, dated Grand River Agency, Dakota, 4th inst., says:—

A soldier was killed at Grand River on the 22d of February last by a party of Minneconjou Sioux from Tongue River. There have been no arrivals from the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail agencies. The Indians here are all quiet.

SUICIDES IN NEW JERSEY AND MASSACHUSETTS.

MOUNT HOLLY, N. J., March 5, 1874.